

90th Space Wing Office of Public Affairs 5305 Randall Ave. F. E. Warren AFB, WY 82005-2266 Phone (307) 773-3381

Notice of Availability of the Revised Proposed Plan For Zone C, Operable Unit 11 F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming

The United States Air Force (USAF) is changing the original pump and treat remedy for groundwater at Zone C chosen in the 2001 Record of Decision. Landfill 3, which was removed in 2000, is the suspected source of the groundwater contamination. It is located about 1,100 feet northeast of the Nob Hill residential area (about 300 feet north of Happy Jack Road) in the southeastern corner of the base. Based on field tests in 2002, the groundwater from the plume cannot be effectively pumped, meaning alternatives have to be re-evaluated. The alternative preferred by USAF is to treat the deeper zone with a chemical oxidant combined with Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA). Following public comment, USAF will write an amendment to the Record of Decision (ROD) to explain the differences and address any public concerns. The Proposed Plan and other related documents are available at the F. E. Warren Information Repository at the Laramie County Library (2800 Central Avenue, Cheyenne, Wyoming). The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) agree with the preferred alternative.

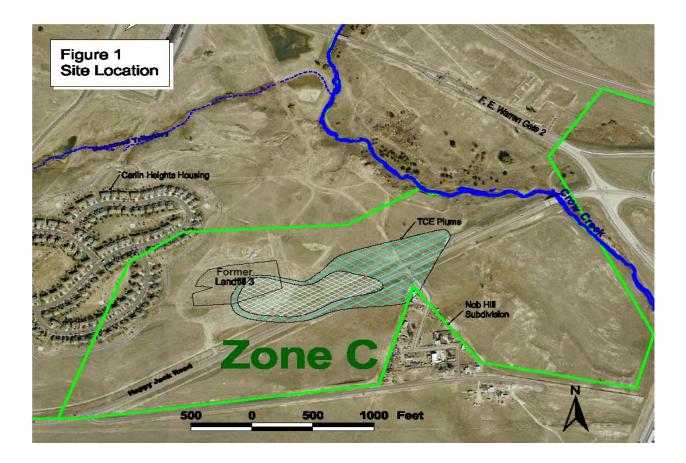
Reasons for the Change and New Remedy

The hydrogeology in the vicinity of Zone C is highly variable, more so than believed during the original Remedial Investigation. This was discovered during pumping tests performed in 2002. Investigators found more finer-grained material in the borings and except for a small part of the area; the groundwater could be pumped at only a fraction of the rate estimated for the original Zone C Feasibility Study (FS). The slower actual rates mean a much longer time to restore the groundwater (by decades). Computer modeling was used to revise the FS and modify the alternatives with the new information. Results of these evaluations are presented in the Zone C Supplemental FS. The preferred alternative is a combination of in-situ (in place) treatment and MNA. The intermediate zone of contaminated ground water at about 30 to 55 feet depth has higher concentrations of contaminants and would receive a chemical oxidant, such as potassium permanganate. This process destroys the contaminants with harmless by-products remaining, most of which are found in the natural setting. Shallower ground water will be allowed to naturally attenuate (decrease in concentration). The attenuation process will be monitored through time (about 30 years). This alternative is preferred because it presents the shortest time frame compared to other alternatives as well as the best balance between effectiveness, effort, and cost.

Who to Contact with Questions

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Public comment will be accepted beginning 9 March 2004 until 8 April 2004. A public meeting is scheduled for 23 March 2004 at 7:00PM at Little America Hotel and Resort, 2800 West Lincolnway, Cheyenne, Wyoming. Copies of the Revised Proposed Plan for Zone C along with all other supporting documents are available for public review at the the following location:

Laramie County Library, Reference Section 2800 Central Avenue Cheyenne WY 82001

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